GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1101
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
PRODUCTION OF CASH CROPS
A.K. PREMAJAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton, sugarcane, rice, wheat and major cash crops during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a declining trend in the productivity of these crops;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase their production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) The production of cotton, sugarcane, jute & mesta, oilseeds, rice, wheat and coarse cereals during 1998-99 to 2000-01 is given in the table below:

(Production in Million Tonnes)

Crop	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02+
Cotton++	11.53	9.65	11.69
Sugarcane	299.32	299.21	292.21
Jute & Mesta@	10.56	10.48	10.79
Nine Oilseeds#	20.72	18.40	20.73
Rice	89.68	84.87	91.61
Wheat	76.37	68.76	71.47
Coarse Cereals	30.33	31.62	34.72

+ Fourth Advance estimates as on 27.6.2002.
++ Million Bales of 170 kgs. each.
@ Million Bales of 180 kgs. each.
# Includes Groundnut, Castorseed, Nigerseed, Sesamum, Rapeseed & Mustard, Linseed, Safflower, Sunflower and Soyabean.

(b) to (d) The productivity of the above-mentioned crops from 1999-2000 to 2001-02 does not show a consistently declining trend, except in the case of sugarcane, as is evident from the following table.

(Yield in Kgs. per hectare)

Crop	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02+
Cotton	225	191	223
Sugarcane	70935	69636	67098
Jute & Mesta	1836	1852	1770
Nine Oilseeds	853	791	907
Rice	1986	1913	2054
Wheat	2778	2743	2747
Coarse Cereals	1034	1042	1155

+ Fourth Advance estimates as on 27.6.2002.

The agriculture production and productivity in the country are greatly influenced by the extent of rainfall and its temporal and spatial spread because about 62 % of the net area sown is dependent on rains for water. However, the productivity of various crops shows a long-term upward trend, albeit with fluctuations.

In order to further improve the performance of the agriculture sector, the Government have launched various new initiatives such as promotion of watershed development programmes, emphasis on developing and promoting new technologies, measures for increasing availability of agricultural credit, Market Information Networkand National Agriculture Insurance Scheme etc. Besides, the Government also encourage farmers to increase production through price policy which includes implementation of Minimum Support Price and Market Intervention Schemes,procurement by public agencies and by using instruments of trade. Apart from these, the Government have also switched over from the conventional schematic approach to macro-management from November 2000 for providing assistance to the States. The Macro-Management Scheme integrates 27 schemes into one for supplementing and complementing the efforts of State Governments through work plans. This gives flexibility to States to address specific problems faced by them depending on local requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all- round development of agriculture.